

Message Text

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60

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DHA-02

SCA-01 SCS-03 PPT-01 /030 W
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R 081236Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8232

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 13223

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI FROM CALCUTTA SEP 8, 1976
REPEATED FOR YOU

QUOTE

CALCUTTA 2213

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL, PORS, CGEN

SUBJ: REPORTED HARRASSMENT OF AMCIT MEMBERS OF ISKON

1. LOCAL LEADER OF ISKCON (INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS), AMERICAN CITIZEN GREGORY SCHARF, CAME TO CONSULATE SEP 7 TO COMPLAIN ABOUT WHAT HE CONSIDERED GOI HARASSMENT OF AMERICAN MEMBERS OF SOCIETY. ACCORDING TO SCHARF, HIS OFFICE IN CALCUTTA WAS CALLED BY FOREIGN REGISTRATION OFFICE TO INQUIRE ABOUT CONNECTION BETWEEN CONGEN OFFICERS O'NEILL AND LIEBOWITZ AND ISKCON. (AS WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, O'NEILL HAS SEEN ISKCON MEMBERS ONLY WHEN THEY CALLED AT CONGEN IN CONNECTION WITH CONSULAR MATTERS, AND LIEBOWITZ VISITED SOCIETY'S MAYAPUR CENTER ONLY AT INVITATION OF LOCAL DISTRICT OFFICIALS DURING TRIP TO THAT AREA THAT HAD NO CONNECTION WITH ISKCON).

2. SCHARF REPORTED THAT TEN AMERICANS WITH THE SOCIETY, INCLUDING SOME WHO HAD PROPER ENTRY VISAS, HAD RECENTLY RECEIVED LETTERS FROM GOI ASKING THEM TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY. HE SAID POLICE HAD COME TO QUESTION HIM IN
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CALCUTTA, AND TOLD HIM THEY KNEW HE WAS A CIA AGENT.

HE ALSO SAID THAT SPECIAL AGENTS FROM DELHI HAD BEEN
CARRYING ON INVESTIGATIONS AROUND MAYAPUR CENTER.
ACCORDING TO SCHARF, OTHER FOREIGN NATIONALS ASSOCIATED
WITH ISKCON HAVE NOT BEEN HARASSED LIKE THE AMERICANS.
SIGNED KORN
UNQUOTE
SAXBE

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NNN

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